

## South Central Region Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan: Fact Sheet

### *10 Diverse Municipalities, 1 Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan*

The South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) has been awarded a grant from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to develop a Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan for Bethany, Branford, Hamden, Madison, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford, West Haven and Woodbridge. The five additional municipalities in the Region (East Haven, Guilford, Meriden, Milford, and New Haven) have completed or are currently working on their own hazard mitigation plans but have been invited to participate in the development of the Regional Plan. SCRCOG has hired a consulting team led by Jamie Caplan Consulting, LLC with support from AECOM to develop the Plan.



The planning process will adhere to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards and requirements for local hazard mitigation plans. The Plan will address possible natural hazards such as flood, wind, earthquake, and winter storms. The purpose of the Plan is to reduce the Region's vulnerability to natural hazards and provide a comprehensive approach to mitigate any potential inter-jurisdictional hazards. The Hazard Mitigation Plan is a prerequisite for the Region's municipalities to apply for federal and state grants to implement the identified mitigation projects.



The Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared through this project will ease the burden of keeping these communities safe and resilient by identifying and communicating hazard risks, developing actions to reduce or eliminate those risks, and making each municipality eligible for FEMA mitigation program funding before and after the next disaster strikes.

**Hazard mitigation** is sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards.

**Hazard Mitigation Plans** form the foundation for a community's long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses and break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

**The planning process is as important as the plan itself.** It creates a framework for risk-based decision making to reduce damages to lives, property, and the economy from future disasters.

*Several opportunities exist for the public and municipalities to participate in the planning process:*

**Advisory Committee:** The Committee consists of representatives from participating municipalities and other targeted stakeholders in the Region. The Advisory Committee will meet with SCRCOG staff and the consulting team a minimum of eight times during the planning process. Participation by the Advisory Committee ensures continuous involvement by local staff and stakeholders in the development of the Plan. The Advisory Committee meetings will allow for valuable input from the stakeholders and will keep them apprised of project progress.

**Public Opinion Survey:** This survey provides an opportunity for everyone in the planning area to share his or her opinions and participate in the mitigation planning process. The information provided will help the Advisory Committee to better understand local concerns and issues as expressed by citizens of the Region, and can lead to mitigation activities that should help lessen the impacts of future disasters. Participation in this survey is voluntary and none of the information provided will be attributed to individuals directly. The survey is located on our website and will only take about 5 minutes to complete.



**Municipality Meetings:** The consulting team and SCRCOG staff will meet with municipal representatives and other stakeholders in each of the ten participating municipalities to gain information and insights that are unique to each individual jurisdiction. These stakeholders may include local or regional agencies, academia or private industry. These meetings will give the planning team an opportunity to gather municipal data and to better represent the unique risks, capabilities and mitigation actions in each municipality.

**For more information:**

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<http://www.scrcog.org/regional-hazard-mitigation/html>